

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A vacuum cleaner comprising:

a housing defining an internal cavity;
a lid connected to the housing for providing access to the internal cavity, the lid being movable between an open condition in which the internal cavity is open, and a closed condition, in which the internal cavity is closed, the lid includes an opening and a closure part for closing the opening, the opening being adjacent to the accessory chamber and providing access to the accessory chamber when the lid is in the closed condition while the seal between the wall and the lid is maintained, a respective portion of the lid borders the opening, this respective portion of the lid defines a lid opening border surface, the closure part includes a retractable blind attached to the lid that is slidable with respect to the lid along a slide track to open and close the opening, and the retractable blind is configured such that the respective portion of the retractable blind that extends along the slide track does not project outwardly beyond the lid opening border surface;

a wall connected to the housing and defining a dust chamber within the internal cavity, the wall having an edge facing the lid;

a dust separator disposed within the dust chamber for retaining dust;

an accessory chamber disposed within the internal cavity and the wall separating the accessory chamber from the dust chamber; and

a seal member forming a dust-tight seal between the wall and the lid when the lid is in the closed condition that prevents dust from passing from the dust chamber into the accessory chamber.

18. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 17, wherein the lid includes:
an opening adjacent to the accessory chamber and providing access to the accessory chamber when the lid is in the closed condition while the seal between the wall and the lid is maintained; and
a closure part for closing the opening.
19. (Withdrawn) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 18, wherein the closure part includes a flap pivotally hinged on the lid to open and close the opening.
20. (Canceled)
21. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 17, wherein the seal member is connected to the edge of the wall and contacts the lid to form the dust-tight seal when the lid is in the closed condition.
22. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 21, wherein the seal member is removably connected to the edge of the wall.
23. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 21, wherein the seal member is molded onto the edge of the wall.

24. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 17, wherein the seal member is connected to the lid and contacts the edge of the wall to form the dust-tight seal when the lid is in the closed condition.
25. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 17, wherein the seal member includes a deformable elastomeric material.
26. (Canceled)
27. (Currently Amended) A vacuum cleaner comprising:
a housing defining an internal cavity;
a lid connected to the housing for providing access to the internal cavity, the lid being movable between an open condition in which the internal cavity is open, and a closed condition, in which the internal cavity is closed;
a wall connected to the housing and defining a dust chamber within the internal cavity, the wall having an edge facing the lid;
a dust separator disposed within the dust chamber for retaining dust;
an accessory chamber disposed within the internal cavity and the wall separating the accessory chamber from the dust chamber;
a seal member connected to the edge of the wall and contacting the lid to form a dust-tight seal between the wall and the lid when the lid is in the closed condition that prevents dust from passing from the dust chamber into the accessory chamber, the seal member being formed from a deformable elastomeric material;
an opening defined in the lid adjacent to the accessory chamber and providing access to the accessory chamber when the lid is in the closed condition while the seal between the wall and the lid is maintained, a

respective portion of the lid borders the opening and this respective portion of the lid defines a lid opening border surface; and
a closure part connected to the lid for closing the opening, the closure part includes a retractable blind attached to the lid that is slidable with respect to the lid along a slide track to open and close the opening, and the retractable blind is configured such that the respective portion of the retractable blind that extends along the slide track does not project outwardly beyond the lid opening border surface.

28. (Withdrawn) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 27, wherein the closure part includes a flap pivotally hinged on the lid to open and close the opening.
29. (Canceled)
30. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 27, wherein the seal member is removably connected to the edge of the wall.
31. (Previously Presented) The vacuum cleaner according to claim 27, wherein the seal member is molded onto the edge of the wall.